TARC

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JULY, 1994

NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS

President: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 Secretary: Bobbi Sue Wood KE4BBS 268-8537
VicePresident: Cliff Hoag KC4SYD 267-7030 Treasurer: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-937

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

With the soon to be implementation of the "vanity call" program, we will most likely be able to get a club call sign - if we so desire. One suggested call sign selection has been W4TAR or K4TAR or N4TAR. Phonetics would be W4/K4/N4....."Titusville Amateur Radio". Give thought to this idea and lets see if we can come up with a neat call sign for our club. If the club elects to get a call sign there would be a $7.00 per year or $70.00 initial outlay and then $70.00 every ten years for the renewal of that club license.

It is in the mill to permit hams who wish to choose their own call sign to submit 10 call signs in preferential order to the FCC. From this list the FCC would assign the first unused call letters. There will be a requirement to post up front the "regulatory fee" of $70.00 along with your application.

This vanity call sign novelty has been in the works for some time and it is looking "realer and realer" each day.....especially when Uncle can collect a fee for this service. Several estimates have been made as to the effective date of this new policy and it seems to be within the next six to twelve months. There is no plan to charge the regulatory fee for the processing and issuing of ham calls under the present method used by the FCC.

Our club membership continues to grow. We are happy to have both old timers as well as the newcomers to this hobby. I want to thank the entire club for their support and it is your friendship and participation that is a drawing card for our new members. To the new members, WELCOME! I hope that you will get involved in the club activities and enjoy the companionship.

Again, I want to thank the TARC test team who have donated so much of their time and talents in administering the required examinations for new and upgrading exams. Since its inception this team has administered a total of 66 test sessions, examined 603 applicants for a total of 220 CW exams and 757 theory exams. The passing rate is 76.9% which is about 10% above the national average. My thanks for the many hours of service that this team has devoted to assisting new hams in getting their license, as well as serving those who wish to - and have upgraded.

Field day is just about here and I want to remind every one to come down, even if for nothing else but a cup of coffee, a soda, or just to let the field day workers know you appreciate them.

See you at Sand Point on Saturday, June 25, then on the next Tuesday, June 28, at the club's regular monthly meeting.
73's, Bud

JULY BIRTHDAYS

JULY 2 WD4JXA FRAN CLAUDY
JULY 4 KC4ZHW KARL BUSHONG
JULY 8 W4NMB HOLLAND STARKEY
WN3DHI ARCHIE SHETLER
JULY 9 KD4RQS JOHN WOOLEY
KD4JBL WILLIE WILLIAMS
KD4POS PARKER COX, JR.
JULY 10 KD4DCM CLARA LARRABEE
KC4ZBC JESSE WILLIAMS
WB9MFJ LARRY CARR
JULY 14 K4DZV WALTER FANTON
JULY 17 KB4WLT KEN WATSON
JULY 20 N4DQT BOB YOUNG
KC4VHH GLENN YOUNG
KE4KSM WAYNE WEST
JULY 23 D4ROZ LEONARD ZBIEGIEN
JULY 24 KN4VS DAVE MERCHBERGER
KE4AGH VERN ANDREWS
JULY 25 KC4YDP JERRY RICHARDS
KE4AEF HOWARD McNITT
KE4BBR DAN WOOD
JULY 27 WA4FER DAVID HURST
JULY 29 WA4CUO BILL HOSKINSON
JULY 30 WD8JLT BRIAN SONNENBERG

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

AMATEUR RADIO DX BLUE BOOK
New revision.
All new country and prefix listings.
10 prefix maps. 300 Pacific Island listings.
DXCC awards listing QSL information.
UTC time differences.
10 page section on QSO dialog.
Russian/English easy pronuciation.
Much more.
Available at club meetings.
Or call Jim Creevay, W4UYZ - 632-6809
$6.95.

SLOW CODE
From Newsline Radio

Slow-code, the name given to an Amateur Radio Industry Group proposal to lower the General class code speed requirement to 10 words per minute is gaining far more support than criticism in ham radio circles. Most of the packet radio postings on slow-code have praised the industry groups leadership in this area. Some even say that the proposed lowering of the code speed does not go anywhere near far enough with five words per minute being suggested instead.

>Hams who favor the five words per minute morse code say that this will allow some sixty to seventy thousand technician class operators, licensed prior to the Novice Enhancement action of the mid 1980's to buy high frequency radios and immediately go on the air. This is because any Tech licensed prior to Novice Enhancement has already passed the General Class theory test and a five word per minute code exam.

>A five word per minute General Class code speed would also do well for the sagging ham radio support industry and the nations economy. This, since it could conceivably generate an instant sixty to one hundred million dollars in sales of transceivers, antennas and associated equipment. With the continually shrinking dollar to yen exchange ratio, slow-code might even stimulate the creation of new ham radio manufacturing plants here in the United States and create thousands of new jobs.

>Slow-code is also getting support from users of various public bulletin boards. An unofficial poll being conducted on America Online by Newsline is so far five to one in favor of the Amateur Radio Industry Group's Slow-Code proposal.

>The Amateur Radio Industry Group has not announced any firm date as to when it plans to file its slow-code rule making request before the FCC. Nor has there yet been any reaction to this proposal from either the American Radio Relay League's or the National Amateur Radio Association.

In House Financing
Ask For
Mark Simon, Sr.
(407) 383-1780

Vintage Used Cars
730 South Washington Ave.
Titusville, Florida 32780

Referred by

Expedient Services, Inc.
Computer Maintenance & Sales
IBM Business Partner
Digital
hp
NOVELL

SHERRY A. HUGHES
Director of Human Resources and Policy
407-267-3450
FAX 407-267-3403
2445 Cheney Highway
Titusville, Florida 32780

DO NOT MODIFY
From Newsline Radio

This word of warning to those of you who have a Radio Shack HTX 202 model hand held. PLEASE! No matter what any other ham might tell you. No matter what you read on packet radio. No matter what might be published in a radio club or other newsletter. Please --- please do not try and perform any sort of extended frequency coverage modification to your radio. If you do, the only thing you will wind up with is a worthless piece of garbage that is totally beyond any economical repair.

The simple fact of the matter is this: It is not possible to make an HTX 202 operate out of the ham bands. This is because the folks at Tandy Corporation designed it that way. Both in hardware and in software.

Even if there were some way to get past the super narrow input filtering there is no way to make the synthesizer operate outside of the 2 meter ham band without obtaining the source code to the software that controls an HTX 202. Tandy considers that to be propriety information. They are not going to give it to anyone.

One ham recently called Tandy to check on the validity of a modification posted on packet. He says that he was told that a number of radios have been returned to the factory inoperative and with lots of the surface mount parts missing. The missing components were traced to yet another phony modification posted on the back yard fence of Amateur Radio that we hams lovingly call packet.

And no, Tandy Radio Shack will not exchange a modified radio even if its still under warranty. In fact, any modification will completely void the warranty and leave you holding a gray plastic box full of worthless junk.

Once again, Tandy says that there is no modification available for the HTX 202 that allows operation outside the amateur band. If you attempt one you are almost 100% guaranteed of destroying your radio.

So, if you must have a hand held that receives outside of the ham bands, we suggest that you buy another brand. If you want one that offers truly superb 2 meter only performance in almost any RF environment then the HTX 202 is well worth considering.

HAM TIP - K4EOS

Put a drip loop in the coax outside the shack before you bring it through the wall. Keeps the carpet from getting soaked. I knew this but forgot. Maybe I'll remember next time!

A MYSTERY SOLVED
From KD4HNW Ken

A sheet of paper crossed my desk the other day, and as I read it, realization of a basic truth came to me. It was so simple! So obvious! Why didn't I see it before? I discovered how ICs work. Smoke is the thing that makes ICs work, because every time you let the smoke out of an IC, it stops working.

Of course! Smoke makes all things electrical work. Remember the last time smoke escaped from your voltage regulator? Didn't it quit working? I smiled like an idiot as more of the truth dawned. It's the wiring harness that carries the smoke from one device to another, and when the harness springs a leak, it lets the smoke out of everything at once, and then nothing works. The starter motor requires large quantities of smoke to operate properly, and that's why the wire going to it is so fat.

Better trained auto techs are an absolute must if any improvement in smoke containment is to be achieved!

* *

ANYONE WISHING TO BE CALLED FOR SERVICE IN AN EMERGENCY OUTSIDE BREVARD COUNTY PLEASE CALL 267-9418 AND LEAVE YOUR NAME WITH BARBARA. WE ARE CURRENTLY ORGANIZING A COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE TEAM (C.A.T.), AND NEED TO REGISTER ALL INTERESTED PERSONS. RALPH HALL - KE4AGL

(407) 267-1699

Precision Auto Care

WHERE FINE AUTO REPAIR
& HONESTY COME TOGETHER

I-95 & STATE RD. 46
(EXIT 81)

4302 W. MAIN STREET
MIMS, FLORIDA 32754

APOLLO 11 25TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EVENT

Amateur Radio Clubs from various NASA Centers are preparing to operate on the air as "special event stations" at their respective center locations to commemorate the 25th anniversary of man's first steps on the moon. Thus far, amateur radio clubs from Ames, Goddard, Johnson, Lewis, Marshall and White Sands are making plans to participate. NASA has expressed much interest in having a station active for KSC. The "on the air" activity is scheduled to run from 1 PM EST July 19, through 1 AM EST July 21. This period corresponds to the time Apollo II entered Lunar orbit through the time it departed Lunar orbit to return to earth. A special certificate is being created to send to the estimated 2000 to 4000 contacts from around the world. All licensed amateurs who are badged for KFC and wish to participate are asked to contact Mike Hadley, KC4TCV at 861-3578. Mike is located in Room 6203D of the OSB. His mail code is LSO-321. Fax 861-4142.

FOR SALE
KENWOOD SM220
MONITOR SCOPE W/PANADAPTER
MINT CONDITION
$275.00
W4CCQ BOB DARRAH
268-2261

TIPS ON INSTALLING AND CONNECTING TO GROUND RODS

From June, 1994 QST

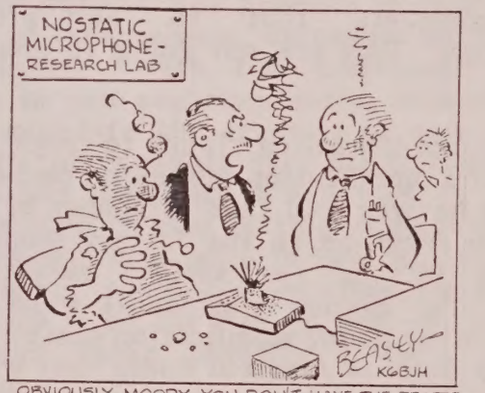
Driving a ground rod 8 feet into the ground with a sledgehammer batters the rod end into an ugly flare. Some types of ground clamps can't open far enough to slip over the enlarged rod. Of course, you can file, grind or saw off the flared end, but doing all of these things at ground level can be difficult. Alternatively, you could slip the clamp over the rod before driving it into the ground, or use a clamp that opens far enough to pass over the flare. In the case of 1/2-inch ground rods, however, clamps wide enough to pass the flare may not tighten adequately.

After considering these problems, I attached my shack ground wire to a 1/2-inch ground rod as follows: I drilled a tap-size hole, about 3/4-inch deep, into the rod top. I tapped this hole for a 1/4-inch, standard thread. Driving in a hex-head bolt permitted firm attachment of the wire to the rod end.

Although I did this by drilling only one hole, drilling a pilot hole - say about 1/4-inch in diameter - before driving in the rod would assist. Doing so would allow you to put the rod in a vise for stability and accurate drilling. Your sledgehammer may obliterate this hole, but you should be able to relocate it by probing with a center punch.

In any such drilling and thread cutting, use a sharp drill and lubricate it and your tap often while cutting. One more tip: If you have a welder friend, consider having him or her weld a 1/3-inch bolt to the ground rod top, after you've driven it in, to provide a stud for connections.

A.W. Edwards, K5CN, corpus Christi, TX.



OBVIOUSLY, MOODY, YOU DON'T HAVE THE PROPER CONCEPT OF A BOOM MIKE!

McCOTTER

McCotter Ford, Inc.

FORD • MERCURY
101 S. Washington Avenue • P.O. Box 6446
Titusville, Florida 32782

Roger Averill
Sales Representative

(407) 267-2112
1-800-940-2113
FAX (407) 268-1044

MAY MEETING
By Bobbi Sue, KE4BBS

The meeting was called to order at 1905 hours by K4CWG-Bud, before some eighty members and guests. Another great turnout, despite the loss of some of our "up-north" members, who have left for the summer season! After the pledge and introductions, Bud noted the sad loss of KD4JAM-Jack, WA2IDZ-Rich and WD4YKP-Bob who have joined our silent keys.

The following items then were addressed:

1. K4CWG-Bud suggested that we now aggressively plan for the new repeater/antenna. He noted that $6K/$7K is required for the purchase/installation. The site is ready; the frequency (145.490) has been assigned, and the custodian has been appointed (WN3DHI-Archie). Bud asked that we all think about ways to raise funds for this project, and to share such ideas with each other in order to "keep the pot stirred"! Only the financial aspect is holding us back. Some members responded immediately with ideas such as:

    Donate equipment to be sold at the hamfest.
    Cash donations.
    Donation box for use at field day and hamfest.
    Sell leather belts w/call signs on the buckle.

I heard one of our folks say, "let's not only talk it up, let's DO it up". Can't say it any more eloquently!!

2. K4EOS-Clyde gave an update on advertising support for the TARC newsletter. KD4JBL-Willie already has obtained three commitments, and Clyde hopes there may be more on the way from others. Business card size ads cost $5 per issue. There was some discussion regarding the cost, considering our limited distribution, but no actual motions were offered re changes.

3. Congratulations and thank-yous were awarded to AD4NA-Tom, for his first computer class. 23 students received their graduation certificates from KC4SYD-Cliff, and they partied later at "The Pub"! More importantly, they had become unafraid of their computers. Tom and Toyia gave up their valuable vacation time to do this for the club.

4. KC4YDP-Jerry introduced N4YGP-Karen Whall, a new TARC member who handles CW faster than a speeding bullet! We welcome Karen to the club, and we look forward to her "bullets" come field day. I understand also that Karen is the controller of the 40 Mtr CW Waterway Net. If I'm correct in that, you CW folks may want to check with Karen for more information. The other half of the Whall family, N4YSO-Dave, also joined TARC, but in absentia due to surgery. We look forward to meeting Dave soon.

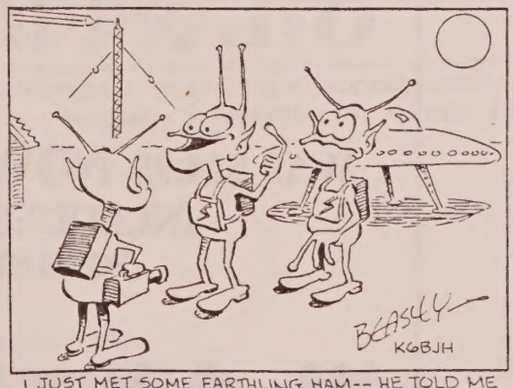
5. K4SKC-Les reported that the planning for the September Hamfest is progressing on schedule, and that some tables already have been reserved! It appears that this "fest" may really be a zinger! Sensing the subtle excitement already among the planners (even at this early point), one has to conclude this ain't just another block on the pyramid! This may be where we earn our spurs!! Les is spending lots of his time and effort to help insure that we all will enjoy and appreciate our own Hamfest '94!!

Again, KD4VFQ-Kay did us a "numbers spread" for our break. Numbers like in home-made cookies and pastries (think fat, but say "don't care"), fresh fruit, coffee and cold drinks. Thank you once again, ma'am, for taking such good care of us!

After the break, KE4BBR-Dan noted that he and KE4BBS-Bobbi Sue plan to draft an updated TARC Handbook. With the growth of our membership, it seems appropriate that the current handbook be revised. Accordingly, BBR/S are gathering data from TARC folks and from old records, and from wherever. But, being new guys on the block, they really need your direction, guidance and ideas regarding the content of YOUR handbook.

The remainder of the meeting was given to field day plans, and KE4BBR-Dan, KC4SYD-Cliff, and W4EPU-Pike presented a synopsis of sorts regarding our "attack" plan! Seems to me our field day message is: "Hey, we're absolutely serious about demonstrating our ability to respond to emergency situations, under emergency conditions; and . . . we are willing and proud to show off our capabilities, because we are that good!!"

It was another truly fun evening with real great people. See you next month!!



I JUST MET SOME EARTHLING HAM-- HE TOLD ME TO BEND THESE STRAIGHT UP AND THEY'LL ACT LIKE A PHASED ARRAY!

TREASURER'S REPORT - YEAR TO DATE
By K4EOS, Clyde Lee

BALANCE FORWARD FROM 1993	518.90
DEPOSITS: 50/50,ARRL,dues,donations dues,hamfests,interest,TARCFEST, loan,stu.fees,Xmas pty.,shirts	3442.01
TOTAL INCOME	3960.91
EXPENSES: ARRL,bnk.chgs,Bud loan gifts,Ins.Off.supp,POBox,postage, printing,stu.bks tel, Xmaspty., Exam. fees,fldday, TARCFEST, hamfest,inc.fee,j c's,reptr.	2535.96
BALANCE AS AT 05/31/94	1424.95

EDITOR'S DESK
By Clyde - K4EOS

Notice the advertising in this issue. Our thanks to Willie, KB4JBL, who contacted these people and solicited these ads. This will help defray expense of printing the newsletter. The rate is $5.00 per issue for a business card size ad.

MEET K4CWG - BUD AND SHERRY HUGHES

On June 13, 1994, Bud and Sherry celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary.

They grew up in Anniston, Alabama, where they still have a lot of relatives that they visit from time to time. Bud and Sherry met when they were 14 and 13 at a community teenage marshmallow roast. Within eyesight of a protective mother and three older protective sisters, Bud managed to get Sherry alone, and told her that night that he was going to marry her. For the next three years Bud courted her, and was so smitten that he would climb atop the family chicken house with his telescope trained on Sherry's house (Bud lived further up the mountain) just in the hope that she would come out into the yard and he could see her. On Saturday, June 13, 1953, they could wait no longer to be together, and eloped.

In these 41 years they have lived in San Antonio, TX, Lewisburg, TN, Huntsville, AL, Columbia, SC, and Titusville. Bud has been a produce man; a cotton mill hand; a TV repairman; a dental technician in the army; an accountant; a food service contractor; a janitorial contractor; a roads & grounds contractor, and now Bud and Sherry, along with son Carl, own a computer repair shop here in Titusville called Expedient Services, where Bud spends as much time working on TARC affairs as he does his own business. In fact, he works lots of nights and weekends, too.

Sherry has a steadier work record than Bud, having had only one job in all those years. Her titles: "MOM" to children Carl, Jerry, and Sandy, and "HONEY" to grandchildren Christopher, Ashley and Michelle. She works at the office and is a willing hand anytime TARC needs her. In her career Sherry also has worked lots of nights and weekends.

WILLIE WILLIAMS SPECIAL

KD4JBL

OIL & FILTER SPECIAL

WAS $24.95 NOW *$19.95* WITH COUPON

INCLUDES UP TO 5 QTS OF OIL
(FORD BUILT VEHICLES ONLY)

McCOTTER FORD INC

OFFER EXPIRES 7-31-94

ABELL'S ANECDOTES
By Pike Abell W4EPU

There was a little garden snake named Mrs. Smith. She lived in a nice suburban snake pit. She had three baby snakes. She was going out this day and didn't want to take the baby snakes with her. She told them to just hiss around the pit until she got home. If she didn't get home in time they were to stop hissing around the pit and go next door to Mrs. Pott's pit and hiss. So she went out and the baby snakes started to hiss around the pit. Mrs. Smith didn't come home so they went next door to Mrs. Pott's pit to hiss. They were hissing around Mrs. Pott's pit when Mrs. Pott came in and said "stop hissing around in my pit. Go back to your own pit to hiss." So the babies stopped hissing around Mrs. Pott's pit and went back to their own pit to hiss. They were hissing around their own pit when Mrs. Smith came home. They were crying while they were hissing. Mrs. Smith said, "What's the matter? Why are you crying?" They said, "We were hissing around in the pit. You didn't come home so we got scared and went to Mrs. Pott's pit to hiss. She came in and told us to stop hissing around her pit and go back to our own pit to hiss." Mrs. Smith said, "She has a heck of a nerve! I knew Mrs. Pott when she didn't have a pit to hiss in.

THIS AND THAT
By Joan Hoag

The worth of a piece of writing doesn't necessarily depend on its length:
The Lord's Prayer has only 66 words.
The Twenty-Third Psalm - 118 words.
The Gettysburg Address - 268 words.
A government study on the price of cabbages - 29,611!! The Friendship Book 1967

One day a five year old visited my friend, talking away while she made beds, dusted, did dishes. Suddenly his eyes rested on a barometer in the hall. He stared for a moment. Then he burbled, "Golly, is it that time? I have to go home." Francis Gay

Life demands of you only the strength you possess. The great thing is never to run away.
Dag Hammarskjold

He deserves Paradise who makes his companions laugh. The Koran

We are here on earth to do good to others. What the others are here for, I don't know.
W.H.Auden

Life is short. Live it up. Nikita Kruschev

Never try to assume a different personality. It doesn't work. Richard Nixon.

Time after time, his small son came home crying because someone had been making fun of him or sometimes even hitting him. So Dad gave Johnny a little talk pointing out he should learn to stick up for himself and use his fists if necessary. Apparently Dad's lecture worked for soon Johnny came racing in shouting, "I did it Daddy! I didn't cry! I did just what you said. I hit her!" Francis Gay

Fall seven times, stand up eight!
Japanese proverb

After ecstasy, the laundry.
Zen Buddist statement

People will accept your idea much more readily if you tell them Benjamin Franklin said it first.
David Comins.

The world is like a shop window in which some mischievous person has gone in overnight and shifted all the price labels round so that the cheap things have high prices and the really precious things are priced low.
William Temple.

Love is blind; friendship closes its eyes.
French saying

You are beaten to earth?
Well, well, what's that?
It's nothing against you to fall down flat
But to lie there - that's disgrace
Edmund Cooke

CompuTrac
COMPUTERS • SOFTWARE • ACCESSORIES • SUPPLIES
BUSINESS • GOVERNMENT • EDUCATION
MIRACLE CITY MALL
TITUSVILLE, FL 32780
BOB BLOCKER
(407) 268-4355

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total Membership: 270 (includes 55 family members & 7 honorary)

New Members: NOTYET HARRY SHETLER
NOTYET DAVE BIRD
NOTYET KAREN BIRD
WB4AXB ART BURSCH
KA3DUJ JOHN ANDREWS
KE4LNS DON McLEAN
KE4MFW WALDO GENTRY
N4YGP KAREN WHALL
N4YGO DAVID WHALL

Renewals: KE4AGH VERN ANDREWS
WA4BTU OREN VERBLE
KV4BY CLARENCE BAUER
KE4CRG STEVE SAUNDERS
WA3EKM BRUCE JACOBS
KB4BNL DAWN JACOBS
KK4EY LEE ROLL
KE4EYR JUNE ROLL
KH6GH ART ZIPPLER
K4GXR RON RICHARDSON
KC4HIQ SHIRLEY SWEAT
AD4PP JERRY MOSKOVITZ
KD4RQT WARREN MURRAY
N4SCY OZZIE OSBORN

Renewals: KD4VFU JACK HALL
KD4WWO MATTIE ADAMS
KD4ZAI WALTER HOLLOWELL
N4ZNQ JIM MEEKS

UPCOMING FLORIDA HAMFESTS

7/16 TAMPA: At USF Tampa.
Talk-in 147.240/146.940
INFO: Kevin 933-9473

7/30-31 JACKSONVILLE: Prime Osborne Convention Center. Talk-in 146.760

9/10-11 MELBOURNE: Melbourne Auditorium 625 Hibiscus Blvd. Talk-in 146.850

9/25 NEW PORT RICHEY: New Port Richie Recreation Cente 6630 Van Buren Talk-in on 145.350/147.150

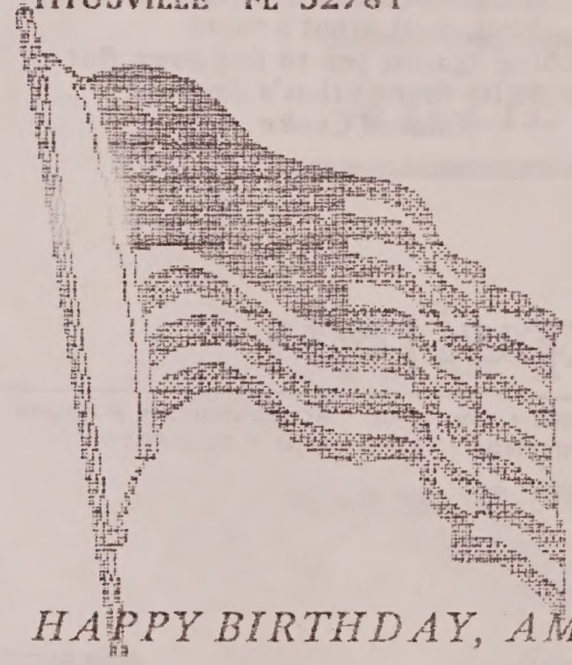
10/1 ST.PETERSBURG: 1st Unity Church 469 45th Ave. North Talk-in on 147.06

10/1 CROSS CITY: Trail Rider's Club Next to Cross City Airport Talk-in on 146.700/147.390

10/8 TITUSVILLE: Free! Fox Lake Park Talk-in on 146.910
INFO: Les 267-1565

10/15 STARKE: Bradford Co.Fairgrounds US 301 and SR 100 Talk-in on 146.910

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O.BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!